

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment after final

1. Applicant's amendment, filed on June 06, 2008 has been considered and entered in full.
2. On 07/18/2007, applicant filed an amendment to the abstract but did not provide this amendment to the abstract on a separate page. However, examiner with applicant's approval provides an examiner's amendment below to the abstract on a separate page.
3. Applicant's amendments to respective claims have been considered and are persuasive; therefore all the rejections on the respective claims have been withdrawn.

Examiner's Amendment

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's attorney/agent of record, Mr. Orlando Lopez, Registration No. 46,880, on 06/24/2008, Examiner's amendment:

In The Abstract

5. The following changes to the abstract have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

(i). Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following amended Abstract:

Methods and system for automatic identification of repeating patterns of slanted stripe features (marks) on an item. ~~In the initial step of the method of this invention embodiment of the method of this invention a digital image of the item is acquired. Pixel data is then obtained for pixels in the digital image. Line segment data is extracted from the pixel data. A set of collinear line segments is identified from the line segment data. A set of lines intersecting members of the set of collinear line segments is identified from the line segment data. The set of intersecting lines and the set of collinear lines identify a set of marks. In one embodiment of the method of this invention, in identifying the set of collinear line segments, the method also includes constructing histogram displaying a number of line segments in predetermined angular ranges. Systems of this invention implement the method.~~

Allowable Subject Matter

Reasons of Allowance:

6. Claims 1-13 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons of allowance:

The reasons of allowance for claims 1-13 should be evident from the applicant's arguments as filed in the amendment filed on 06/06/2008 and the previous office action mailed on 04/28/2008.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manav Seth whose telephone number is (571) 272-7456. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta, can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Bhavesh M Mehta/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2624

/Manav Seth/
Examiner, Art Unit 2624
June 25, 2008